

continued to serve his community and in 2015, Arnie became president of the Fraternal Order of Police of Central Florida.

In 2016, Arnie helped draft a state bill which enabled all disabled Florida first responders who were injured in the line of duty to receive a homestead exemption. The bill was signed into law and took effect on January 2017. Arnie continues to contribute to investigative cases as an experienced officer and has enabled the arrest of two suspects in cold cases.

For this and more, we honor Arnaldo Amoros.

THOMAS MCGOWAN

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, last month, I had the honor of attending Thomas McGowan's send-off party celebrating his acceptance to West Point. I nominated Thomas because of his strong commitment to his community and his academics. He graduated from Mainland Regional High School where he took a total of 13 advanced placement classes and was also a member of the National Honor Society. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and held positions in his troop as assistant patrol leader, patrol leader, senior patrol leader, instructor, and order of the arrow representative. In addition to Thomas' academic successes, he also played on his school's baseball team and also volunteered at numerous organizations. He was an American Legion volunteer since he was in 6th grade, and assisted his local veterans by participating in over 300 hours of giving back to those who served their country. His Eagle Scout project took over 40 hours to complete and he also did over 225 hours of other community service projects. I know Thomas will go on to achieve great things and will represent South Jersey with pride. God Bless Thomas and God Bless America.

DRUG TREATMENT PIONEER MIKE WATANABE RETIRES

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, as he retires I rise to commemorate the career of a pioneer and advocate in drug treatment, Michael N. Watanabe. Mike and I became friends during the time that the crack cocaine epidemic devastated neighborhoods across Los Angeles, but his dedication to serving those struggling with addiction goes back much further.

Even as a high schooler in the 1960s, Mike had seen friends and neighbors of all races suffer and even die from drug overdoses. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1969, where he served as a Huey helicopter Crew Chief in Vietnam. His experiences there gave him further insight into the role that substances like drugs and alcohol play in people's lives. He emerged from his transition back to civilian life with a determination to help people. That led him to pursue a degree in social work at

UCLA, earning a scholarship through the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

In 1975 he joined the staff of the Asian American Drug Abuse Program (AADAP). With offices in the heart of the Crenshaw district of Los Angeles, AADAP had been founded to assist Asians, Pacific Islanders and other underserved communities. Mike quickly saw opportunities to extend services, and to treat the whole person. He has dedicated 46 years of his life to AADAP, 39 of those years as the head of the organization.

During his tenure, AADAP grew from a small grassroots organization with 20 staff to a large, comprehensive service agency with over 120 professional staff serving a significant portion of Los Angeles County through ten service sites. AADAP boasts an impressive track record, serving all races and cultures, and offering residential and outpatient treatment, family support, job training, and a wide spectrum of programs providing prevention, intervention, and diversion services for substance use disorders.

In his nearly half-century of service, Mike has also leant his expertise to numerous national, state and local organizations and commissions. He has given workshops, seminars, testimony, and consultations to anyone who could benefit from his experience and vision for change. He has received innumerable awards and recognitions for his work as an educator, clinician and leader, including an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (LHD) degree from his undergraduate alma mater, California State University Northridge.

Countless lives have changed for the better due to Mike's work. Now, as he hands over the reins of this vital organization, I wish him and his family the very best, and I look forward to the next chapter of his life.

IRON DOME CRUCIAL TO DEFEND FAMILIES

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, last week, in a move that stunned me and my Republican colleagues, the Democrats removed funding for the Israeli Iron Dome air defense system from the continuing resolution. Though I remain hopeful it will ultimately be included in the final package, it is unbelievable that scrapping this essential system was even being considered.

The U.S. and Israel have an alliance mutually beneficial for joint security and Middle East stability of peace through strength.

Israel is under regular rocket attack from the terrorist group Hamas, from Gaza and Hezbollah from Lebanon, and the Iron Dome, a product of U.S.-Israel security cooperation, is designed to intercept and destroy short-range rockets and shells the Iran-sponsored terrorists fire indiscriminately into their country, targeting civilians. Some 4,400 rockets were fired into Israel in May alone, and sadly, tens of thousands more projectiles may be stockpiled.

I have been to Israel and know first-hand the fear of attack felt by their citizens visiting mothers in Sderot who have traumatized children by rocket attacks, and mothers in Jeru-

salem who have horribly injured children by suicide bombers at Hadassah Hospital. Mass murderers must be stopped. The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) makes a difference alerting Americans with the truth by sponsoring conferences with Christian civic leaders as this week with Hope Walker from South Carolina.

So, we must continue to support their security needs as an ally and as a matter of the broader U.S. national security.

In conclusion, God Bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from abroad to our neighborhoods.

HONORING DR. LUIS HERRERA FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I honor Dr. Luis Herrera. As medical director of the Orlando Health Cancer Institute Thoracic Oncology Program, Dr. Herrera serves Central Florida by providing the most advanced levels of innovative care for patients with lung and esophageal cancer at the busiest thoracic surgery location in Florida. After attending medical school at the University of Puerto Rico, Dr. Herrera completed a general surgery residency at the University of Pittsburgh, followed by a cardiothoracic surgery fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, prior to joining Orlando Health in 2006.

Dr. Herrera is widely regarded as a pioneering senior thoracic surgeon with advanced expertise in lung cancer treatment and minimally invasive and robotic surgery. He has received a number of prestigious research grants, published dozens of journal articles and scientific abstracts, and holds academic appointments at the colleges of medicine at the University of Florida, University of Central Florida, and Florida State University.

In his current role as medical director, Dr. Herrera has led the significant growth of the Thoracic Oncology Program at Orlando Health Cancer Institute. Through effective recruitment, innovative technology, and operational efficiencies, he has developed the leading thoracic surgery program in Florida. He is now focused on developing a state-of-the-art lung cancer screening program, the first of its kind to Florida. Dr. Herrera also serves as co-director of the Orlando Health Advanced Robotic Surgery Program, chief of the Orlando Health Perioperative Governance Committee and member of Orlando Health's Oncology Executive Cabinet.

For this and more, we honor Dr. Herrera.

VETERANS HORSE SHOW

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, this summer, I had the honor of attending the Veterans Horse Show, hosted by NJ American Veterans